

## THE AFFAIR OF THE PROMETHEUS AND CHALLENGE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.

The Captain of the steamship Prometheus, which arrived here to-day, reports that as he was about to proceed to sea, from San Juan, the English brig of war Express, fired two shots both passing within a few feet of the steamer. Upon sending a boat on board the brig, the Captain stated that he did it to protect the authorities of Graytown, who had demanded what Capt. Churchill of the steamer, thought illegal port charges, and threatened to fire a bomb shell unless the fires of the steamer were put out, and the vessel brought to an anchor. The authorities then came on board, and the Capt. having paid the charges under protest, was permitted by the brig to proceed to sea.

The N. Y. Evening Post of Dec. 4th says:—"In the news brought from San Juan by the steamer Prometheus, which arrived here last evening, an incident is related of a very important nature. The protection of the pretended dominions of the King of the Mosquitoes is made, by the British fleet in those waters, a pretext for committing acts which, if they are repeated, or not apologized for, will lead to a serious misunderstanding between Great Britain and the United States, if not to actual war.

There is a chief of a few hundred Indians, not yet civilized enough to wear clothing, who has been dignified by the government of Great Britain with the title of King of the Mosquitoes, and whose title to a large extent of coast that power has taken upon itself to support against the claim of the republic of Nicaragua. This unbreeched monarch, under the instructions of the English government, lays title to the mouth of the river San Juan and its banks, including the town of San Juan de Nicaragua, sometimes called Nicaragua, a place which the Nicaraguans and their Spanish ancestors have held from time immemorial—or, what is the next thing to it, from the earliest settlement of the country.

On the river San Juan lies a place called, on some of the maps Grey, and in the letter of Captain Churchill, which we publish to-day, Greytown. From its name it appears to be an English settlement, and a set of authorities have established themselves at this place, who have a police force at their command, and who pretend to hold their power by appointment from the naked autoer of the Mosquitoes. They claim the river and harbor of San Juan de Nicaragua and insist as it seems from the experience of Capt. Churchill, that those who enter and depart from it shall pay their port charges. The Prometheus being about to leave the mouth of the river without paying these charges, a British vessel of war, the brig Express, fired into her, in such a manner as to endanger the lives of the passengers, of whom there were 500 on board. On inquiry being made as to the meaning of this, Capt. Churchill was informed that it was the office of the brig to protect the servants of the Mosquito King in their demand of port-dues, and if they were not paid immediately, he would send a bomb-shell into the Prometheus; ordering his guns, at the same time, to be loaded with grape and canister shot. As there was no alternative between paying and being sunk in the harbor, Capt. Churchill complied with the demand, protesting against its violence and illegality.

To say nothing of the insolent manner in which the demand of the white agents of the Mosquito Chief was enforced, it is manifest that this sort of interference, however courteously, and even forbearingly it might be offered, cannot be endured. We find a civilized race in possession of the river and harbor of San Juan, and we acknowledge their jurisdiction over the country, as succeeding to the ancient Spanish title. Great Britain, on the other hand, digs up what she pretends to be a still older title of a small tribe of savages, crowns one of them as their king, erects herself into a protector of his rights, and sends out an armed vessel to compel us to recognise them. The bare statement of this proceeding is enough to show that it cannot be tolerated, and that if Britain persists the two nations must come into deadly collision, and the waters of the harbor of Nicaragua will be tinged with blood.

Our republic claims the right to judge for itself in recognizing the independent government of any country with which we have relations of peace. We have recognized the Nicaraguans as sovereigns of the country watered by the San Juan, and have never acknowledged any other. The Mosquito nation has been esteemed of so little consequence, that its name is not even mentioned in the British geographical works of authority. McCulloch's Geographical Dictionary, which is extremely minute, has not the slightest allusion to its existence. Great Britain, however, like us, may judge for herself, and acknowledge the right of the Mosquitoes to the country, if she can find a reasonable pretext for doing so; but she must not presume to judge for us. The pretext of being the protector of the Mosquito King, does not alter the question. It is a mere expedient for giving a plausible face to an impertinent interference, and will not be allowed to pass.

Letters received here from San Francisco, give the following account of the difficulty on board the ship Challenge:—"When the vessel arrived off Rio, the crew some fifty to sixty, broke out in open mutiny, with the intention to seize the ship, murder the Captain and mate, and give her in command of one of their company, and go roving. The mate was knocked down and stabbed by the crew, but was rescued by the Captain, who succeeded in bringing them to duty, not however until some of them were severely hurt, seven of whom having previously been sick with the dysentery and scurvy, died on the passage. Some of the sailors ran away before the ship came to the wharf, and related such shocking stories of the manner in which they had been treated, that a great excitement was created among the boatmen and the sailors on the wharf, who crowded the deck of the ship, hunting for the Captain and mate, to lynch them.

A despatch received by the New York Journal of Commerce and Tribune, thus states the affair of the ship Challenge:

The clipper ship Challenge, from New York, had arrived at San Francisco, but was beaten 18 days by the Flying Cloud.

Ten of the crew of the Challenge died on the passage, and six more were taken on arrival to the hospital in a dreadful condition, it is reported in consequence of injuries received from Capt. Waterman, who has escaped.

A heavy reward is offered for him, but he has as yet avoided arrest. All the ships in port had

been searched by the citizens, and the excitement against him was intense.

The editor of the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser, thus rationally refers to the reported murder:

We cannot permit this statement to go forth without qualification. We know not whence it is derived, whether it be the version of the California papers, or of the telegraph reporter at New Orleans. We do not believe it to be the whole truth, by any means. As it reads, it charges the captain and officers of the ship with deliberate, cold-blooded "murder" of passengers. This no one here will believe. The whole truth will be insisted upon before a judgment is formed. The probability, almost certainty, is that there was insubordination on board, and that the captain and officers were compelled, in self-defence, for the safety of the ship and the other passengers, to resort to extreme measures. That the captain should be unwilling to avoid the Lynch Law operations of a San Francisco population and its vigilance committee, is no evidence that he believed himself to deserve punishment.

On the morning of the 1st of November, the mate was arrested nine miles beyond the Mission, on the San Jose road, and lodged in the County Jail, in charge of the U. S. Marshal.—It is thought that Capt. Waterman would also be arrested. Six of the men died from dysentery and three were lost from the mizen yard in a gale.

NEW YORK CORRESPONDENCE, Dec. 8, 1851.

The great city is all alive with enthusiasm to-day, guns booming, banners waving, long lines of military, and the shouts of the excited and joyous multitude proclaim the long expected arrival of the illustrious Kosuth. The upper part of the city seems almost deserted, the population having floated down to the Battery and the wharves, to witness the pageant, in honor of the great Hungarian, which is universally admitted to be the most gorgeous ever enacted in the Empire City.

Of the incidents of the reception, the great gathering of dignitaries, civil and military, the address of welcome by the Mayor, and the energetic and happy reply of Kosuth, together with the lengthened procession, swelling in numbers, constantly, as it passed along the streets, are they not all written down by the "indefatigable and gentlemanly reporters for the public press," and set forth in leaded and staring columns, in every newspaper in town, and, therefore, they may not well be repeated by your correspondent.

The personal appearance of the Maygar Chieftain, has agreeably surprised every one—a thing about which preconceived notions are very generally and very widely at fault. He is of commanding stature, and his high pale forehead, betokens him a man of deep thought and earnest enthusiasm. He wears his hair long, and luxuriant beard and mustache unshorn.—An ample velvet wrapper enveloped his manly form, and in his hand was a beaver bonnet, with a single plume, gracefully drooping over it.—The ladies are unanimous in praise of his commanding appearance, and their verdict, will, we think, be cordially responded to by the "lords of creation."

Numerous deputations from all parts of the country are here awaiting the movements of the popular idol, and hoping to be honored with a visit to their particular localities.

But one opinion is expressed relative to the halting on the part of the Senate of the United States, in expressing the warmest and most cordial sympathy, in the name of our whole people, for the noble victim of European despotism. Your distinguished citizen Lewis Cass, and his gallant effort in behalf of the resolution of welcome, are in every one's mouth, and it would do a Wolverine's heart good to hear the "sweet voices" of the multitude in praise of the stand taken upon this question by the great statesman of the North West.

It is feared that the heart of Kosuth has been deeply wounded by the cold indifference manifested by several Senators towards him, and his cause. A stranger in a strange land, he cannot but feel most keenly, even the least semblance of a desire to be rid of his presence, on the part of so august a body as the Senate. However, the events of a day or two will fore-shadow, it is hoped, a far different reception than recent appearances in that body would seem to warrant.

The banquet of the "Press," in honor of this illustrious ex-editor, will assuredly come off as soon as the requisite arrangements are completed. Such a feast of reason and flow of soul is seldom to be had as will doubtless be witnessed on the occasion. Your own presence here would be exceedingly gratifying to the brethren of the quill.

A simultaneous movement for the relief of sick American seamen in foreign countries is on foot, and a vigorous effort will be made by the great shipping and commercial interests of the sea board, to ensure the action of Congress in their behalf. As matters are at present, our consuls in foreign ports are often without the means for the speedy and proper relief of these meritorious claimants for aid.

That "Lais" of modern times, Lola Montes, whose arrival has been duly chronicled, meets with but a flat reception at the hands of the wonder loving public. Her game appears pretty nearly played out. Even theatrical caterers for public amusement, are cautious in their advances. None has yet been found adventurous enough to close with her terms, and it is not impossible that the female influence of the country will drive this libel on her sex back to the shores of European profligacy and abandonment. It were a "consummation most devoutly to be wished." [Det. Free Press.

MONTGOMERY DEAD.—James Montgomery, whose name has been familiar to the lovers of poetry for half a century, is dead. He was born on the 4th of Nov., 1771, and had thus attained the ripe age of 80.

This announcement will be of painful interest to the many admirers of the Sheffield Bard, whose sweet devotional strains have attuned the hearts of thousands to feelings of pious and thankful gratitude, to an overruling and beneficent Providence. Many of his lesser poems, and particularly the one entitled "Prayer," written for the culprit forger, and once eminent banker, Fauntleroy, when about to expiate with his life, the crime of which he had been guilty, will ever live in the affections of the christian community, as a beautiful summary of the attributes and efficacy of prayer.

## THE GRAND RIVER TIMES.

HENRY PENNYER, EDITOR.

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN.

TUESDAY EVENING, DEC. 23, 1851.

At a special term of the County Court for this County, his Honor DENNIS A. REED, presiding, held last week, Henry Gardner was tried for an assault with an attempt to commit a rape upon the person of CORNELIA O. DAVIS, on the 18th day of October last, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment in the State Prison. Gardner has long been known as a hard case, guilty of many crimes, and had the statutes of this State been rigidly enforced, he would have been sent (where he is now sentenced), years since, to atone for the many crimes he has committed. Gardner on his trial did not hesitate to bring up his willing instrument, Jesse Mudge, now living in Calhoun Co., to swear him clear. Mudge's testimony had a contrary effect from what was intended. It is somewhat doubtful whether Gardner would have been convicted if this Mr. Mudge had stayed at home. Mudge found it necessary to leave these parts immediately upon being released from the stand. This Mudge will bear watching wherever he may be.

Winter is upon us in earnest. The river is bound in icy chains—and ice banks of monstrous size are forming along the coast. The Amanda Harwood, which was expected here, did not arrive and we conclude that she must winter at the mouth of White River, where she has lain moored to the sand bank, since the 28th of November.

We learn, verbally, that the extensive tannery of C. W. TAYLOR, was burned on Monday night last. Loss estimated at from six to eight thousand dollars. Supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

NEW YORK, Dec. 6, 1851.

The Pacific, from Liverpool, arrived with dates to the 26th ult., at 9 last evening, with 47 passengers, and advices 4 days later than by the America.

Among the passengers are Hon. W. C. Rives and lady, American Minister to France, and Mr. Winthrop, bearer of despatches from London.

The steamer City of Glasgow, from Philadelphia, arrived at Liverpool on the 23d ult., in 18 days.

Lord John Russell has given £500 towards Lt. Pim's expedition to the Polar Seas, in search of Sir John Franklin.

HANOVER.—A new ministry, under the Presidency of M. Schele, has been formed, which pursued an entirely new course of policy. The new King of Hanover has issued a new proclamation now pledging himself to the most sacred observation of the constitution of the country.

FRANCE.—M. Dethouquet has an invitation to stand as candidate for Representative from Paris. Having fears that it might divide the party of order, La Ferrier Durville has been named Minister of Finance.

GERMANY.—The proclamation of the present King of Hanover gives the greatest satisfaction. He is called George the Vth.

The state of Hungary in a political sense, is most unsatisfactory. The system of expulsion is still carried on at Vienna on a grand scale.

SPAIN.—The news possess no marked feature of interest. Pending relations with the United States and Cuban invasion, give rise to much discussion in public journals.

Two vessels of war had arrived at Cadiz, with another portion of the Lopez expedition aboard.

Mr. Frederick Peel, youngest son of the late Robert Peel, has been appointed to the post of under Secretary for the Colonies, a position which, at the present juncture, is thought to require great ability, in which the new incumbent is said to be entirely deficient. He is but 28 years of age, and represents the borough of Tamworth, for which his father had been a member for so many years before his death. Young Peel is a radical in his political principles; and was consequently opposed to his father in politics for some time preceding his father's decease.

IMMIGRATION.—During the late month of November, the number of immigrants who arrived at the port of New York was 26,634; of whom there were from 14,865; Germany, 6,740; England, 3,112; Scotland, 628; France, 484; Switzerland, 319, and from Belgium 148. During the eleven months of the present year, ending November 30th, there have arrived at the port of New York the large number of 279,454 immigrants; being an increase this year of 73,491. [Free Press.

Dates from Galveston, Texas, to the 21st ult. state that Col. Rogers has at length succeeded in effecting a treaty with the Camanche Indians. Col. Rogers recovered twenty-seven white captives from the Camanches, who had been in bondage for some time.

The Erie Canal is fairly closed, and the weather is very cold. There are not less than from three to four hundred loaded boats frozen in, at Fort Plain.

The Albany Register heads an article "The house of reps." which is rather equivocal, since reps may be the "short" for reprobrates as well as representatives.

Avery, who deliberately shot Samuel Fleming in open court, in North Carolina, in consequence of blows inflicted on him by Fleming sometime previous, was acquitted by the Jury after ten minutes consultation.

Gen. Herrera was expected at Panama on the 15th, accompanied by a corps of disciplined soldiers from Carthage, who are to be stationed on the Isthmus to preserve peace.

The latest advices from the seat of war on the Rio Grande, report that Gen. Carvajal had received a reinforcement of four hundred Americans, and was making preparations to renew hostilities on a most formidable scale.

## THE SPANISH CONSUL AT N. O.

The National Intelligencer, of the 4th inst., contains the correspondence between the Department of State and His Excellency Sr. Don Calderon de la Barea, the Spanish Minister, on the subject of the Lopez Expedition, and the injuries and insults offered to the Spanish Consul at New Orleans. The Department disavows the act of the mob, and expresses the profound regret of the President that the Spanish Consul, entitled to protection not less by the Laws of Nations than by positive Treaties existing between this Government and Spain, should have been insulted and injured, and declares the purpose of the President to recommend to Congress that provision be made for indemnification. The department draws a distinction between the rights of the Consul and those Spanish residents at New Orleans, whose property was destroyed by the rioters. The latter, Mr. Webster thinks, should apply to the Courts for indemnification. Mr. W. expressly declares that he does not look for precedents to justify the course which the President has thought proper to adopt; but deeming the honor and the duty of the United States best promoted by yielding prompt redress for injuries inflicted upon an official personage residing here, under the special protection of our laws, he will call upon Congress to provide the necessary means in the premises. In addition to this it is proposed "that, if Mr. Laborde shall return to his post, or any other Consul for New Orleans shall be appointed by her Catholic Majesty's Government, the officers of this Government resident in that city, will be instructed to receive and treat him with courtesy, and with a national salute to the flag of his ship, if he shall arrive in a Spanish vessel, as a demonstration of respect, such as may signify to him, and to his Government, the sense entertained by the Government of the United States of the gross injustice done to his predecessor by a lawless mob."

This is all very well, so far; but it will occur to our people that while such elaborate, and, perhaps, just complaints, were being made against our Government and people, something might be said, by way of returning the compliment, about the murder of the fifty Americans. Mr. Webster, however, thought proper to touch the subject very lightly, even so lightly as not to disturb the sensitive nerves of Sr. Don Calderon de la Barea! Sr. Don Calderon de la Barea, we take it, must be a prodigiously nice man; and Mr. Webster had no heart to disturb him in his round of complaints, though Mr. W. must have known that American citizens were being murdered, and treaties violated, at the very moment the events at New Orleans were despatched by telegraph to the Department.

The National Legislature is now in session, and that veteran Chief, Lewis Cass, the noblest of a long line of illustrious men in the Senate, is at his post. A correspondent writes under date of the 4th:

"The Russian and Spanish Ministers together with several other members of the foreign delegation, were present during the discussion in the Senate of the Kosuth resolution, and appeared to take a deep interest in the same.

"When Gen. Cass rose to speak, Mr. Bodisco and Calderon de la Barea, left their seats and placed themselves in the most favorable position for catching every word he uttered, and, during his denunciation of despotism and monarchies, they manifested considerable emotion."

How readily does the true lover of his country reach the sympathies of his fellow-citizens! Devoted to a Principle, and acting by its dictates, the cause of the people, not less than their affection, are ever with him. When he speaks it is for them, for their cause—and their cause is not of Russia or of Spain. [Free Press.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1, 1851.

Instructions have been transmitted to Mr. Barringer, our Minister at Madrid, directing him to interpose in behalf of the Cuban prisoners now in Spain. There is reason to believe that they will soon be released. The basis of settlement of all the difficulties with Spain has been agreed upon by Mr. Webster and Senor Calderon de la Barea in their preliminary interviews, so that the official correspondence will exhibit nothing but the final determination.—No formal demands were made by the Spanish Minister, because it was known they would be instantaneously rejected. The complications have been accommodated honorably and satisfactorily, the Secretary of State acting generously, while vindicating every American right.

A communication has been received from Mr. Rives, which will accompany the message, stating that the French Minister of Foreign Affairs has disclaimed any purpose of interfering with the commerce of the United States, or of exercising any right of search, in the orders given to the French squadron in the Cuban affair. Lord Palmerston has addressed a letter of the same import to Mr. Crampton.

The President's message reasserts, in the strongest terms, the views of Mr. Webster on the subject of impressment as expressed to Lord Ashburton, and all in such a manner as must produce an impression on the European mind. This doctrine may be considered settled, the positions of Mr. Webster being of an equally comprehensive and patriotic character.

No official communications have been received from Mr. Thrasher or his friends, relative to his imprisonment, nor any other document except one brief letter from Mr. Owen, the late Consul at Havana, stating the general facts of the case. Mr. Webster has written two despatches to Havana, which will, doubtless, secure Mr. Thrasher's release. The government has taken every proper step in the matter.

Advices from Indianapolis of yesterday, bring intelligence that the Supreme Court of the State of Indiana, has just decided that the appeal of the defendants in the suit of the Northern Indiana R. R. vs. Michigan Central R. R. was well taken, and should be sustained. The decision leaves the question at issue between these companies to be adjudicated on by the Supreme Court at some future session, and has the effect to dissolve the injunction heretofore against the Central Road, to prevent their proceeding to Chicago. It is not expected that the Court will have the case before them again this winter. [Free Press.

The Panama Star learns by passengers from San Juan, that navigation by that route is suspended for the present, the steamer navigating the Fake having gone over the rapids, and it being impossible to get her back again. Nearly 2000 persons are waiting transit both ways on that route.

GREAT DISCOVERY OF LEAD ORE.—The Galena Advertiser gives an account of the discovery of lead ore, which promises to surpass any thing of the kind on record. It was made about two miles north-east of the Linsiphur Mound, is two miles distant from any other diggings, on a farm in the prairie, and was made by a boy finding mineral in a creek. "On examining the bottom of this creek, it was found to be almost a solid mass of lead ore for some ten or twelve feet in width. Some three or four holes have been sunk about four feet in the clay, on each side of the creek, and specimens of large block mineral taken out, weighing from fifty to one hundred pounds. This ore lies between the clay and rock, forming a horizontal floor, and has been proven on one side of the rock for fifteen feet in width. This discovery may be considered as a new feature in the development of the resources of these mines—it being in a district of country that has been laid open, on the prairies, till the last few years, and was not considered as mineral ground by a majority of the old miners, and it adds another evidence to prove how little is known of these mineral formations. It is impossible to estimate the probable value of this discovery. There is none of that change of ground on either side of this discovery, which has invariably terminated the veins of ore throughout these mines, and there is reason to believe it lies immediately between Hazel Green and North Fairplay diggings, and that it is an east and west vein, forming a link in the subterranean network of veins, connecting these two mining districts."

ALBANY, Nov. 20, 1851.

This morning a man named John Moore, and Elizabeth Moore, his wife, who lived about five miles from this city, on the Delaware turnpike, were found dead, both having been shot. Moore was forty and she thirty years of age. They had been out to a house-warming, at a friend's where they had drunk until they became very much intoxicated. Returning home, they are supposed to have quarreled, and Moore must have taken a double-barreled fowling-piece and blown off the right side of his wife's head, with one of the charges. He then, probably, placed the muzzle of the weapon to his right side, and by means of his foot, discharged the remaining load. The ball entered near his heart.

Mrs. Moore was found in the front yard, about fifteen feet from the door, her head lying in a pool of blood.

Moore was near the stove, in the house, the gun by his side.

When the bodies were discovered, two little girls—two and a half and five years of age—were found standing by the side of their father, weeping. Rum had made them orphans.

The deceased have previously appeared to live happily together, and have never been known to quarrel. An inquest was held, and the verdict of the jury was that the wife came to her death by the hands of her husband, and that he came to his death by his own hands.

The message of the Governor of South Carolina was delivered on Tuesday. The document is said to be very concise. The Governor states that whatever action the State may choose to take in the present position of affairs, he will sanction; but he solemnly assures the Legislature, that since it resolved upon resistance, and ordered the State to be armed for the emergency, when the hour should come, no wrong that had been complained of had been redressed—no indemnity offered for the past—no security given for the future—that under the much vaunted fugitive slave law, it cost the owner, in some instances, four times the value of the slave to recover him, while attempts at reclamation had cost others their lives. He appeals in strong terms to the pride and patriotism of the people. He says that government troops have been stationed on the coast to overawe or coerce them; that guns upon Pinckney Castle and Fort Moultrie are frowning upon Charleston; and concludes that the present condition of the country demands the burial of all party feelings which have so much distracted them, and a union of their energies against the common enemy of their institutions. [Providence Weekly Post, Dec. 3.

WHIG UNITY.—The Albany Knickerbocker, edited by a young gentleman of talent and independence, thus speaks of the Organization of Congress:

The Democrats went into the House on the most harmonious terms, and elected a Speaker on the first ballot, almost every man coming square up to the rack. The Whig gun on the contrary, exploded and kicked the gunners sky high—the highest vote for Speaker being 21, which was cast for Chandler, of Pennsylvania. Fillmore and his friends are harmonizing the Whig party with a vengeance.

The Knickerbocker has a tolerably accurate idea of the "unity" of its party. It was never more completely broken into fragments than at the present moment. The sum total of its power in the Union consists of a President and Cabinet and the Governors of two or three States! Mr. Fillmore is wise in declining to be a candidate for re-election, when not a single auspicious omen for the whigs is discernible on the political horizon. He has no desire to be defeated. [Buffalo Courier.

A MISSISSIPPI CANDIDATE.—Dan Russell, the Union candidate for Auditor of Public accounts, is an original genius, besides being gifted with a ready and happy wit. At Jackson, he was suddenly called upon for a speech, by enthusiastic shouts from the audience. Rising upon the Speaker's stand, Dan thus commenced:

"Fellow-citizens, you have called upon me for a few remarks. I have none to make. I have not prepared a speech. Indeed, I am no speaker. I do not desire to be a speaker; I only want to be an auditor."

We need hardly say that the well-timed pun brought down the house.

CANADA R. R.—Our citizens will be pleased to learn that the subscriptions by the Central New roads to this great enterprise, are finally filled up and completed, at a joint meeting last week. This puts this matter, which has been for some months held in suspense, beyond the reach of any further obstacles, as the sum subscribed by the corporation in question, with that pledged elsewhere, to build the Canada road, and set it in running order from Niagara Falls to Detroit. [Det. Free Press.

The Democratic State Convention of Ohio is to assemble at Columbus, on the 8th of January, to appoint Delegates to the National Convention.